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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/758,112	01/03/2001	Toufic Boubez	RSW920000102US1	7400
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DUKE W. YEE YEE & ASSOCIATES, P.C. P.O. BOX 802333 DALLAS, TX 75380				
EXAMINER				
HAMILTON, LALITA M				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
3691				
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
01/16/2009		ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte: TOUFIC BOUBEZ, STEPHEN L. BURBECK, JAMES B.
CASLER, STEPHEN G. GRAHAM, and MARYANN HONDO

Application No. 09/758,112
Technology Center 3600

Mailed: 15 January 2009

Before LAWRENCE J. BANKS *Paralegal Specialist*
BANKS, *Paralegal Specialist*.

ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

This application was electronically received by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on 12 December 2008. A review of the application revealed that it is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being returned to the Examiner to address the following matter(s) requiring attention prior to docketing.

EXAMINER'S ANSWER, MISSING SIGNATURES

An appeal conference is mandatory in all cases in which an acceptable appeal brief has been filed and a determination to move forward on appeal has been made. The participants of the appeal conference should include (1) the examiner charged with preparation of the examiner's answer, (2) a supervisory patent examiner (SPE), and (3) another examiner, known as a conferee, having sufficient experience to be of assistance in the consideration of the merits of the issues on appeal. On the examiner's answer, below the primary examiner's signature, the word "Conferees:" should be included, followed by the typed or printed names of the other two appeal conference participants. These two appeal conference participants must place their initials next to their name. The answer must also include the signature of a TC Director or designee to indicate that he or she approves any new grounds of rejection, if presented.

A review of the file finds that the Examiner's Answer filed 16 June 2008 is missing either at least one typed/ printed name of the appeal conference participants and/or is missing at least one initial or signature to make the record clear the appeal conference was held in accordance with MPEP § 1207.01. Therefore, correction is required.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that the application is returned to the Examiner to:

1) obtain the necessary conferee signatures and/or TC Director signature (if necessary); and

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2) for such further action as may be appropriate.

If there are any questions pertaining to this Order, please contact the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences at 571-272-9797.

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